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REMARKS

Agents of Record

For the captioned application, the undersigned attorney advises that the contact agent of record, Alfred Macchione, has relocated his practice to the firm of:

McCarthy Tétrault LLP
Customer Service #: 27155
Toronto Dominion Bank Tower
P.O. Box 48, Suite 4700
Toronto, Ontario
M5K 1E6 Canada

Applicant has consented to having contact agent retain responsibility as agent of record. Undersigned attorney advises that in total the following agents of record are also now associated with the same customer number and have the authority to also act on behalf of the Applicant for the above matter:

Alfred Macchione	Reg. No. 40,333	
Robert Nakano	Reg. No. 46,498	(undersigned attorney)
Brian Gray	Reg. No. 30,017	
Kenneth Bousfield	Reg. No. 40,460	

Undersigned attorney also advises that the attorney reference number has been changed to

Atty's Docket No.: T01215-0039 US (123081-339655).

Applicant requests that the USPTO update its records for this application accordingly.

Summary of Office Action

Examiner objected to Figure 3 for lacking labels. Examiner objected to abstract for containing improper language.

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Examiner rejected claims 2, 3, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being indefinite. Examiner rejected claims 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter "signal". Examiner rejected claims 1, 23 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. 102 (c) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,717,689 to Ayanoglu ("Ayanoglu").

IN THE DRAWINGS

Applicant provides proposed corrected drawing sheet containing Figure 3 wherein labels have been added. Exemplary support for labels are found on page 17, line 11 to page 21, line 23 of the specification. If proposed corrected drawing sheet is acceptable to Examiner, Applicant will provide a formal drawing sheet in due course. As such, Applicant traverses objections to the drawings. Applicant notes that Notice of Draftperson's review dated 1/28/00 indicate objections to all drawings for having poor line quality. Applicant will provide a complete set of replacement drawings in due course.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Applicant provides an amended Abstract wherein the term "comprises" is not used. As such, Applicant traverses objections to the Abstract.

IN THE CLAIMS

In this Response, Applicant amends claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 23 and 24 and cancels claims 2, 18, 21 and 22 to traverse Examiner's rejections. Applicant also adds new claims 25-27. There are 23 claims on file with the present amendment.

Claim 1 is amended to further define how and when header information is extracted and processed prior to producing a reduced header. Claim 10 is amended to clarify relationship between the reduced header and the VPI/VCI fields. Claim 13 is amended to clarify relationship between the reduced header and the HEC field. Other amendments made to claims depending

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from claim are provided to maintain consistency of elements defined in amended claim 1. Claim 23 is amended to further define how and when the processor defined therein extracts information from the defined header to produce the reduced header. Claim 24 is amended to further define how and when the processor identified in the preamble extracts information from the defined header to produce the reduced header.

Applicant cancels claim 2, making rejection based on 35 U.S.C. 112 moot. Applicant submits that claim 20 particularly points out and distinctly claims the identified subject matter, namely by identifying the source from where instructions relating to the reduction originate. As such, rejection of claim 20 is traversed.

Claim 3 is amended to depend from claim 1. As such, rejection of claim 3 based on 35 U.S.C. 112 is traversed.

Claims 21 and 22 are cancelled without prejudice. As such, rejections of these claims are moot.

Applicant traverses rejection of claims 1, 23 and 24 as follows. Applicant's invention is directed towards reducing a header of packet in order to gain transmission efficiencies. Headers of packets are individually examined, and based on the contents of the header, without relying on contents of headers of other packets (as such information is not ordinarily used for the transmission of the packet between two identified elements in the network), the invention provides a method of reducing the size of selected data elements from a header. Claims 1, 23 and 24 have been amended to amplify these features. Exemplary support for the amendments is provided in Figure 3 and the related description in the specification from page 17, line 11 to page 21, line 23. Meanwhile, in Ayanoglu, the invention disclosed therein relates to a header reduction system for an ATM communication system where there is an interface to a wireless communication network. In the wireless network, it is expected that there errors in the packets would appear more frequently. As such, Ayanoglu provides a specific method of reducing a header of packets in such an environment. In particular, when determining when to reduce a header, Ayanoglu relies on information provided from the previously transmitted cell. See column 21, lines 53 to 56 for example. As such, all elements of claims 1, 23 and 24 are not taught in Ayanoglu and Applicant traverses rejections based on Ayanoglu.

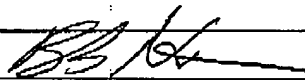
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Further, in view of amendments made to claim 1, other amendments have been made to claims depending therefrom (as noted above) in order to provide consistency of elements defined therein. As rejection of claim 1 is traversed, Applicant submits that all claims dependent from claim 1 are allowable.

New claims 25-27 ultimately depend from claim 1 and define further aspects of data elements extracted to produce the reduced header and the frequency of implementation of the method and the synchronization required between elements defined therein. Exemplary support for these claims are found at page 16 line 24 to page 17, line 5 and at page 18 line 25 to page 19, line 4 and at page 19, line 23 through 30.

By way of the present amendment, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action in due course is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to discuss this case further, if necessary.

	Respectfully submitted,
February 27, 2004	
Date	Robert H. Nakano (Registration No. 46,498) McCarthy Tétrault LLP Suite 4700 Toronto Dominion Bank Tower Toronto-Dominion Centre Toronto, Ontario M5K 1E6 Canada